101st Anniversary of the Elongate

TEC NEWS

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Volume 29, No. 3

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS

ANA Convention Issue
Summer 1994

From the President's Desk

All of the hoopla for the pre-convention publicity is over. It's Convention Time!

As president of TEC, I usually take this opportunity to welcome our members to the convention. However with your Editor, Craig Whitford being the General Chairman and me as the assistant, both of us take this opportunity to officially welcome not only TEC members but all others to the 103rd Anniversary ANA Convention in the great city of Detroit.

Many thought that we couldn't do it but WE DID. The bourse floor is a sell-out and so are all of the hotels in the vicinity. We had three major hotels booked and had to scurry around to get a fourth. How is that for collector and dealer confidence? This did not happen without a lot of planning and effort. Now, it is up to you and all others that attend to participate in the exceptional activities that have been arranged. Patronize and support our loyal dealers, add to your collection and enjoy yourself to the fullest. If Craig of I can assist you in any way, do not hesitate to contact us. (You have an inside track with the officials.) To those of you that do not attend, look for a full report in the next issue of TEC News.

Now for TEC business: With this issue comes the long awaited coins that were selected as the winner and runner-up in the design contents for "The Centennial of the Elongated." Our apologies for the excessive delay are extended to Bill Manifold, the winner and to David Dorchuck, the runner-up. We hope that when they see the finished coins that they will forgive us. With only minor modifications, they both turned out very well. It was Craig's contest and we both have been busy. Again we are sorry for the delay.

This will be the sixth year that we have produced the official elongated coins for the ANA convention. We are very pleased with this and all of our other 1994 coin designs. Our secretary, Howard Sharkey informs me that orders for the Convention Badges, coins and coin sets have been coming in well, however, orders for the enameled silver badge were unusually low this

(Continued on Page 3)

Inside This Issue

- **Detroit or Bust** –Wm. Massey
- **Tribute for Jack Meccariello** –C.J. "Gus" Meccarello
- **Elongated Shaped Coins** –Bill Manifold
- **Daddy, I Wanna Go To The Zoo** –Christopher Rothbauer
- **One Good Unlisted...** –H. Allen Curtis
- **TEC Birthday Coin**
- **Classified Ads**
- **TEC Coins & Supplies**

PLUS . . .
Letters, News and more!

July-September, 1994
VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3

President's Desk – Ray Dillard 1
TEC Officers 2
Detroit or Bust - William C. Massey 3
Letters to Ye Editor . . . 4
Tribute for Jack Meccariello (TEC No. 2) – C.J. "Gus" Meccarello 4
Elongated...Shaped Coins – Bill Manifold 5
Official TEC Birthday Coin 5
Special TEC-ANA Coins 1994 7
Daddy, I Wanna Go To The Zoo – C. Rothbauer 8
One Good Unlisted... – H. Allen Curtis 8
Hear-say from Howard 9
Membership Application 11

ADVERTISING INDEX

TEC Advertising Rates 2
TEC Video Library 3
TEC 2x2's 8
TEC Past Convention Issues 9
ANGROS Publishing 9
Zeman & Sommer 9
Classified Advertising 10
Venison Mkt. Eng. 12

S.A.S.E.?

Please be sure to always enclose a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope when corresponding with our advertisers or with TEC officers

ADVERTISING RATES

As a SPECIAL incentive to our current and future advertisers, the editor will accept ads which are not camera ready for publication in this newsletter. I will typeset and publish your ad at the following rates:

Full page$25.00
Half page 15.00
1/4 page 10.00

Send your ad copy and check to the TEC Editor. *Please make your check payable to T.E.C.*

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

All advertising and articles for the FALL '94 (October-December) Issue of *TEC News* are due into the office of the Editor **no later than September 30, 1994.**

OFFICERS OF THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS CLUB 1994-1995

PRESIDENT
Ray Dillard
P.O. Box 161
Fenton, MI 48430

VICE PRESIDENT
Gus J. Meccarello
228 Vassar Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

SECRETARY
Howard C. Sharkey
203 S. Gladiolus
Momence, IL 60954-1709

TREASURER
Don Wilkinson
5700 Flager Street
Metairie, LA 70003

YOUTH DIRECTOR
Larry Gentile, Sr.
542 Webster Avenue
New Rochelle, NY 10801

EDITOR
Craig A. Whitford
P.O. Box 22026
Lansing, MI 48909

CLUB HISTORIAN
Ginnie Aldridge
515 Pinehurst Drive
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

DIRECTORS
Reva Kline
Rocky Rockholt
Russ Sears

PAST PRESIDENTS
Dottie Dow
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President's Desk *(From Page 1)*

year. I am sure that this is the result of problems encountered last year and the change of source this year. I predict that those that did not order will regret the decision when they see them. I also predict a record price for the one available piece that will be offered in our auction. Speaking of the auction – we still need items! Bring them to the membership meeting.

We always have a lot of activity at the TEC booth and this year we expect even more. The Boy Scout and the Girl Scouts will be conducting Merit Badge training sessions and I have invited them to our booth to roll their own coin as a personal souvenir of the convention. I am a glutton for punishment and will need a lot of help to keep up with all of these kids, but I know that I will get all of the assistance that I need. At the present time I have four different Michigan members that have volunteered to share the rolling responsibilities during the duration of the convention. For this I am very appreciative. Otherwise I would not be able to do justice to TEC along with my responsibilities as Assistant General Chairman of the convention.

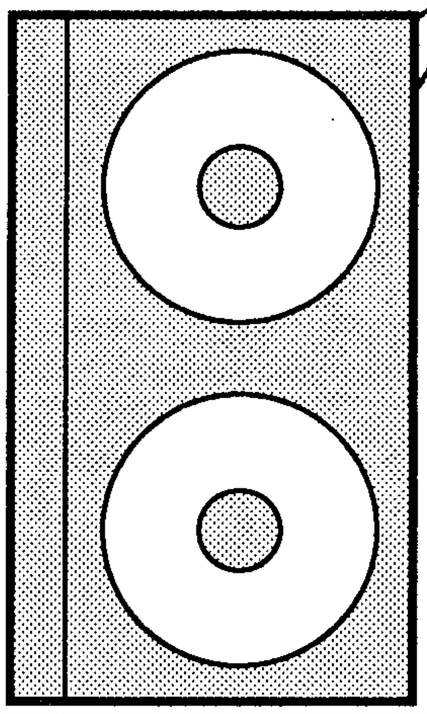
Our Board Meeting is scheduled for 8:00 AM, Friday, July 29th in Room 69. Our General Membership Meeting will follow at 9:00 AM in the same room.

Members are encouraged to bring ideas to these meetings for discussion, consideration and action. We need new ideas! Remember, we are an international organization and only meet once a year. Let's make the most of it! In addition to business our membership meeting are usually fun filled; meeting old friends, making new acquaintances, the auction and – you wouldn't believe the free hand-outs.

Non-members are encouraged to fill out the membership application enclosed with this newsletter.

Enjoy yourself in Detroit!

Ray Dillard



TEC Video Library

The following VHS tapes are available on loan: **"The Elongated Collectors"** and **"Making of a Steel Die."** The rental price for both is $10.00 plus the cost of return postage. Address your request to Ray Dillard, P.O. Box 161, Fenton, MI 48430.

DETROIT OR BUST

By William C. Massey, TEC 1857

If this year's ANA in Detroit is just half as enjoyable as last year's in Baltimore, It will be well worth the trip. Fortunately I was able to attend the Baltimore convention being as I live only 30 miles away. It was great! My first ANA! My first TEC meeting! All the big name rollers! All the freebies!

The excitement began the moment I stepped into the TEC meeting room. All the strange faces made me a little nervous at first, but after the introductions (all in attendance introduced themselves), I knew that I was where I belonged. We had a very nice meeting. I learned quite a bit about elongateds and the inner-workings of TEC, and there was even an elongated auction towards the end of the meeting. And just when I thought it was all over, benevolence began to spread through the room like a wild fire. Frank Brazzell started by handing our bags of assorted elongateds to everyone. The next think I knew, people were handing me their personal elongated coins left and right. It felt like it was my birthday or something. I was able to ask questions that had been plaguing me about elongateds for years, and get the answers straight from the masters. Yea the meeting was great, but the fun and freebies were a long way from being over.

Scanning the dealers proved to be very rewarding. I picked up quite a few more free (I love that word) elongateds from them, as well as finding reasonably priced ones from several more. I roamed around scrounging every circulated 1893 cent I could find. Why? So that Ray Dillard and Joe Buford could create the highlights of my young collection. 100 year anniversary of the elongated coins rolled on coins from the inaugural year. They rolled my Mercury dimes too. I can't thank them enough. Not only for their brawn, but also for their patience in answering the 1001 questions I had for them.

So will I be at the ANA in Detroit? Will I have Ray Dillard roll the Gold for me again? Will I be on the prowl for freebies and 1893 cents? You be I will. Even if I have to crawl all the way from Maryland.

Letters to Ye Editor . . .

From Gene Haifley (Moreno Valley, CA) TEC No. 1689 -Isn't it nice, how all good things that go around, come around.

My wife and I are both members of the "Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club." Last weekend, we attended the second annual convention of the club, in Las Vegas, Nev. During our "Round of the Bourse," we noticed on the "Money Tree's" table, a dozen or so elongated cents. I asked Bob Matthews if he was a member of "The Elongated Collectors." He said no, that a friend of his had rolled these cents.

There were two different designs, both store cards. One is vertical and across the top it has MATTHEWS MONEY TREE CO. In the center is the logo of the Casino Chips and Gaming Tokens Collectors Club and across the bottom it has Howell, MI with zip code and phone number.

The other cent is horizontal and across the top it says MATTHEWS MONEY TREE, HOWELL MICHIGAN FT. MYERS FLORIDA. In the center is the tree with a coin on each side, then across the bottom it has ROOTS IN TWO LOCATIONS.

Bob asked me if I knew who his friend could be, he said he is from Michigan. I told Bob that it could be no one other than Ray Dillard, and sure enough, when I looked at them closely, there was the "RWD." 1325J

From Chuck Irwin (Latana, FL) – Hats off to the editor and contributing members for the current edition of TEC News! [Vol. 29, No.1] The eulogy to "Salty" is one of the best I have ever read! "Unlisted Listed" is also due the honors. Most informative. This is the kind of newsletter that encourages one to become a member.

Ed. Note: Thanks Chuck for your comments. Without our contributing membership there would not be a *TEC News*. Below is the *TEC News* Award Coin design for 1994 which is given to each member who has an article published in *TEC News*. The coins rolled are limited to the number of articles appearing each year in *TEC News*.

***And Finally From Ye Editor** – Sorry folks for the delay in sending this issue to you, but I hope that you will find it worth the wait. As you know I've been SUPER BUSY with the ANA Convention and thus most of my FREE time has been spent on the ANA Convention. This issue is also light four pages, as TEC News usually runs 16 pages an issue, this is also do to the time crunch. Again my apologies. 888*

Tribute for Jack Meccariello (TEC No. 2) Died April 30, 1994

By C.J. "Gus" Meccarello

Even though we spell our last name different we were brothers. Why the "i" was left out on my name is another story.

Actually Jack was named Giacomo the Italian name for "Jack."

Jack was a very resourceful man anything he touched came out a gem.

Jack developed most of his interest in elongates while cranking my father's machine. He made his own rolling machine. It was a heavy machine but it certainly rolled out coins. His first coins were crude dies made by the acid etch method. Later when Jack was in the printing business he was the originator of the buy and sell booklets. It was while doing this he came upon the photo etch method of making dies.

You can see in his elongates the progress of his elongates, getting better and better as time went on. He never rolled large amounts of elongates. Many of his are short roll and quite hard to get for a complete set. I know he had a complete set of his rollings. The set I have has some missing because he only made one good one of the chain saw as the batch never came out to his liking. He destroyed all but one by chopping them up and melting the coins in his foundry. So I never got a chance to get even a chopped up one.

Through the years Jack also had a John Deere dealership, and a couple of garages. He used to buy all bankrupt businesses and resell the merchandise. He had so many businesses going at the same time. He was a Jack of all trades and did them well.

I am going to miss him and all the good times we had with elongates. May his soul rest in peace.

Elongated or Elliptically Shaped Coins

As presented at the February 2, 1994 meeting of the Holland (MI) Coin Club

By Bill Manifold

To died in the wool coin collectors elongated coins are considered a "novelty," but to the serious elongated collector they are more than that. First for their historical interest, more so than regular coins because they pictorially depict events of the past, such as World Fairs, dedications of landmarks, centennials and other "happenings" in all 50 states. Then there are series or sets such as classic cars, space shuttles, dinosaurs, sports greats, presidents, state seals and flags, souvenirs and advertising.

Elongated coins first started as souvenirs of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. Last year was the Centennial celebration and many rollers put out issues honoring the occasion.

The vase majority of elongates are rolled on pennies, although some are on nickels, dimes, quarters and halves. These are known as denominational sets. Some are rolled on tokens and foreign coins as well, which can get kinda "sticky" if you're not careful. If you want to roll Canadian coins through your elongating machine, do it in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and not in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. A fellow was arrested by Niagara Regional Police and his $4,000 machine was seized as he was making souvenirs for tourists on the streets of the Canadian city.

Just as with regular coins, prices can vary considerable depending on rarity or scarcity of a particular issue. Some of the older "limited edition" issues are the most valuable. These are ones of special occasions put out in small quantities and then the die destroyed either by scratching lines through it or other means. Unfortunately, (or fortunately depending on how you look at it) some of the old dies are surfacing and more coins being rolled from them. These are known as restrikes or more correctly re-rolls and not nearly as valuable; while they are still collectors items because of the subject matter. For instance, an original may have been rolled on an Indian Head or early issue "wheat" cent and the re-rolls on newer Lincoln Memorial cents. One could command a price of $40 while the other only a dollar or two. There are some unscrupulous characters that will try to pass them off as "original." A case of "let the buyer beware." The average "going price" for modern elongateds is about 50¢.

Every so often the question arises about the legality of elongating coins. As it is with a few of its counterparts, elongated coins are no longer considered legal tender. The penny-pinching process through rolling not only dismembers the coin out of shape, but it also removes it from circulation. Chapter 18, Section 331 of the U.S. Code covers Mutilation, dimunition and falsification of coins and Section 475 Counterfeiting and Forgery. In a letter from the Treasury Department, U.S. Secret Service, I quote the following: "The foregoing statute does not prohibit the mutilation of coins if done without fraudulent intent or if the mutilated coins are not used fraudulently." However this opinion is not binding and each case must be considered individually. Also quoted from the same letter, "However, the Dept. seeks to discourage the practice of using coins for purposes other than to pass as money whenever possible."

Another thing collectors must be aware of is infringement on copyrights. A case in point is the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California. It wasn't to long after a roller made some

(Continued on Page 6)

OFFICIAL TEC BIRTHDAY COIN AVAILABLE

JUNIOR MEMBERS – Send your Birth dates in to TEC Secretary Howard Sharkey right away. It is important to you. For all Junior members celebrating their birthday after August 1, 1993, TEC will send you an Official TEC Birthday Coin every year. The rules are simple, your dues must be paid for the current year. After your 18th birthday the offer is terminated. This means that you can receive one coin each year through your 18th birthday. There is still time to pay your 1993 dues and qualify for your Birthday Coin.

ADULT MEMBERS – The Official TEC Birthday Coin is available from the TEC Secretary for $1.25 postpaid. A new elongated coin will be produced each year.

Elongated...Shaped Coins, Continued...

souvenirs when he received a letter from their lawyer telling him to cease and desist because they held the copyright and he wasn't licensed to make them. By the time he got the letter he had already stopped so nothing ever cam of it.

The oldest known elongated is the WIEN 1818 of Austrian origin. It was discovered in a hoard of Austro-Hungarian and Russian coinage. In this country the oldies covered a period from 1893 'til 1940. Then during WWII from 1940 up to 1960 there was a dormant period. After 1960 until the present rollers produced what is known as the modern elongates.

Today the designers or engravers and rollers incorporate their initials into the design, but in the old days they could only be distinguished by their engraving style or types of borders they used as a means of identification. There are probably more than 40 styles of borders such as dots, dashes, stars, rope, chain etc.

Today there is usually a crescent shaped starting slot in the design used as a gripper to pull the coins through the rollers. The original dies were hand engraved whereas the modern ones are chemically etched using acid and pantograph machines for engraving.

The rolling machines are very similar to the old washer wringers of the 30's and 40's except of course, they are made of hardened steel and exert about 29,000# or more of pressure on the coins to embed the detail. The original machines were hand operated, then later some of the rollers motorized them with either gear or belt and pulley arrangements. Some even went so far as to make automatic vending machines for use in Penny Arcades and other public places. The customer inserted his penny in a chute, then 25 or 50¢ in slot to activate the mechanism. By watching through the glass enclosure he could watch it transformed into a souvenir. The Lord's Prayer is a very popular topic for this purpose.

There are four types of rolling dies, SOLID ROLL (engraved right on the roll), RING BAND (Sleeve slipped over shaft-held in place by slot and key), SEGMENT (milled channel in roll-die held in by screw) and FLAT. Various types of steel are used in the fabrication of rolling dies, ie. Carbon, Tool and Alloyed steels.

These in turn, are heat treated and broken down into further categories such as Air, Oil or Water Hardening steels. Most rollers engage the services of a competent machine shop to fabricate their rolling dies. Many do their own engraving and a few do their own heat treating.

After running limited edition dies are relegated to different status which is of concern to the collector as to the value of their elongateds. The various categories are EXTANT (still usable), CLOSED (marked), CANCELLED (line incised), DAMAGED (flawed), BROKEN, or DESTROYED (image ground smooth).

Dies can be engraved with more than one design. Some have two, three or even four on a roll which can be handy especially if you want to give your customers more choice when you are out on location. Years ago you could get a small hand operated rolling mill in the $200 to $500 range. Now they run $3500 to $4000 and up if you want to get into motorized versions.

Rollers, also known as "Penny Mashers" make a large variety of elongated novelties, such as souvenir cards, two-sided (which are scarce because this requires making matched engravings on upper as well as lower rollers), Photographic images, Holiday Greetings, Holed specimens (such as keychains, pendants or convention badges). Also some whit things attached such as birthstones, fraternal or religious items, hand painted engravings and jewelry.

The World's Rarest elongate was put out on July 21st, 1972 in Orange County, CA. Lee Martin, then president of CCE (calif. Collectors of Elongateds) along with Warren Bunge (roller) in the presence of a Notary Public made one elongate. Minutes later an X was incised across the center of the die nullifying any further rollings. This was done as publicity in conjunction with their County Coin Show.

There is a national organization for elongated collectors called TEC (The Elongated Collectors). It was founded in 1966 through the efforts of 11 people attending the TAMS convention in Chicago. They decided on the owl logo from the ancient Greek coins of Athens and by January 1967 they had 116 Charter members. Off to a good start. Their conventions are held each year to coincide with the ANA Convention. Last year was in Baltimore, MD. This year it's Detroit. Dues are $10 per year, $5 for junior members. The membership includes a membership card elongated coin,a 16 page quarterly newsletter *(TEC News)* which includes a coin with each issue, plus free classified ads and members are eligible for various awards. TEC is a member of TAMS and ANA. If anyone is interested in joining an application form is included with this issue.

Still think elongated coins are just a novelty? According to "Kovels on Antiques & Collectibles" an elongated cent that was rolled at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904 was auctioned at Kurt Krueger's specialized mail and phone auction in Wisconsin last summer. The bid price was $2,420.

*The author wishes to express his thanks to Angelo Rosato, author of **"Encyclopedia of the Modern Elongated"** from which I gleaned much of the information for this report.*

SPECIAL ISSUE ELONGATED BADGES AND COINS FOR 1994

Official ANA Elongated Cent – 50¢ each plus S.A.S.E. if ordered by mail.

ANA/TEC 6-Coin Set – Quantity limited to 100 sets. This is a joint project with profits to be split with the ANA. The sets will be sealed in plastic and consist of the following: An elongated 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢ with the Official ANA design, plus an extra 1¢ with the TEC hand-out design on it. The price will be $7.00 per set at the convention and $8.00 by mail.

TEC Hand-out Elongated Cent – 50¢ each plus S.A.S.E. if ordered by mail.

TEC/ANA 6 Coin Set – Quantity limited to 75 sets. These sets will also be sealed in plastic and consist of an elongated 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢ with the TEC hand-out design, plus an extra 1¢ with the Official ANA design on it. The price will be $7.00 per set at the convention and $8.00 by mail.

NOTE: The single coins will again be enclosed in special printed 2x2 souvenir holders. If ordered alone, please be sure to enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope (S.A.S.E.).

Enameled Silver Badges – Quantity limited to advance orders only. Ordering deadline is June 1, 1994. Price $25.00 each. We regret that Bert Samsa will not be making these badges for us in 1994, however, we are currently working with Silvertowne and the tradition will continue. This will be the 6th year.

Regular Issue Badges – Quantity limited to 100. This will be the 28th consecutive year for these badges. They will be rolled on clad quarters and the price will be $6.00 each at the convention and $7.00 by mail.

Payment for any or all of the above coins can be made in advance or at time of delivery, as you prefer. However, please order early to avoid disappointment. All orders should be addressed to:

Howard C. Sharkey, TEC Secretary
203 Gladiolus
Momence, IL 60954-1709.

ADVERTISING RATES

As a SPECIAL incentive to our current and future advertisers, the editor will accept ads which are not camera ready for publication in this newsletter. I will typeset and publish your ad at the following rates:

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

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Daddy, I Wanna Go To The Zoo!

By Christopher Rothbauer, TEC No. 1902-J

The Louisville Zoo of Louisville, Kentucky had a unique idea. In its gift shop it has a rolling machine. For 51 cents (two quarters and a cent) you can get one of three designs rolled on the cent. When I was there I had to wait about ten minutes to get my cents rolled.

The first design has a tiger on it. Above the tiger it says "TIGER", below it says "LOUISVILLE ZOO".

The second design has a polar bear on it. Above, it says "POLAR BEAR". Below, it says "LOUISVILLE ZOO".

The third design has an elephant on it. Above, it says "I / RODE / THE / ELEPHANT / AT". Below, it says "THE LOUISVILLE ZOO".

On the first and second varieties, the design is vertical. On the third variety, the design is horizontal.

This idea got at least one person collecting elongateds. How do I know? I started collecting elongateds after getting all three designs rolled.

The purpose of this article was to simply get these elongateds listed. If you own any of these elongateds, please write me. I am currently in the process of compiling the number of these elongateds rolled. My address is 925 Pennsylvania Ave., Jeffersonville, IN 47130-5748. Keep collecting!

One Good Unlisted VIR-JTE Variety Deserves Another

By H. Allen Curtis, TEC No. 1442

In the Spring, 1994 issue of TEC News Ray Dillard enumerated in detail the distinguishing features of an unlisted VIR-JTE variety of elongated coin. It was a "Merrimac and Monitor Duel" which he called VIR-JTE 5 Type No. 2. The already listed VIR-JTE 5 became Type No. 1.

Thanks to Ray's article and an opportune offering of VIR-JTE elongated coins, I was able to make another unlisted variety find. Following Ray's lead, I am distinguishing the listed and unlisted varieties of VIR-JTE 4 as Type No. 1 and Type No. 2, respectively:

Type No. 1 (As listed)

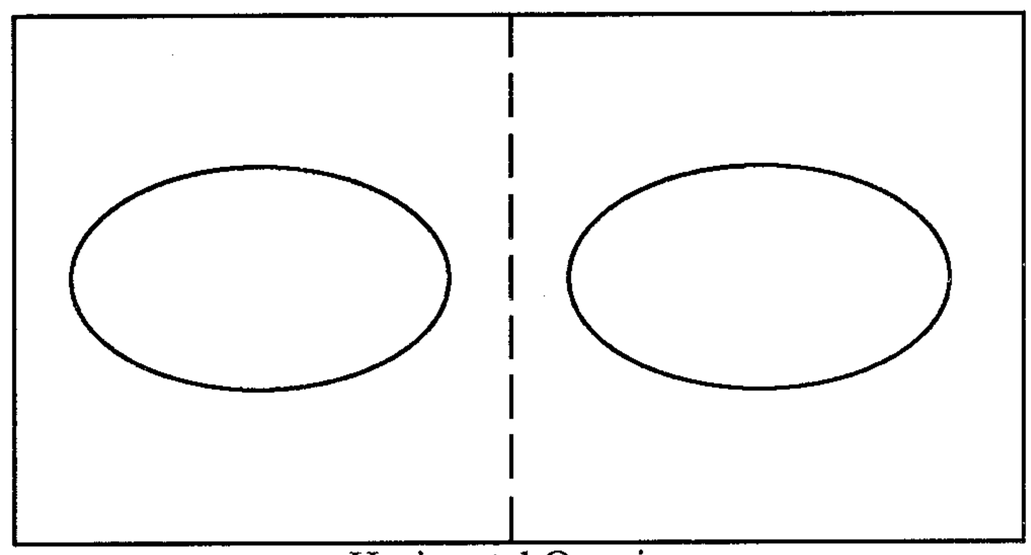
1. The letters V and A show clearly at the end of the upper legend.
2. Tree foliage at the right does not reach the letter A of VA.

Type No. 2 (Unlisted)

1. Only the letter V shows at the end of the upper legend.
2. Tree foliage at the right reaches high enough to cover the letter A.

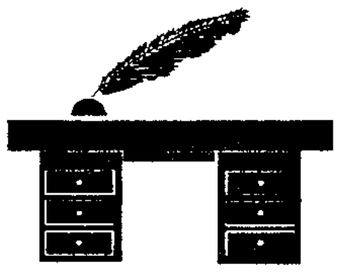
TEC 2x2's FOR SALE

Your club has special high quality 2x2 elongated coin holders for sale. There are two types, the slanted window and the horizontal window type, both available in white only. Be certain to specify which window type you desire when ordering. Prices include postage prepaid. (Non-US addresses please add for postage.) ***Make checks payable to TEC.*** **Send orders to: Ray Dillard, P.O. Box 161, Fenton, MI 48430.**



Horizontal Opening

100 for $3.50
500 for $16.50
1000 for $30.00
3000 for $60.00



Hear-say from Howard

By Howard Sharkey, TEC Secretary

I've been receiving Convention Coin orders at a brisk pace since I last wrote to you. Our Special Sale Coins are going out steadily. I still have a few badges.

The 1991 six-coin sets are SOLD OUT. I have a few 1989 - 1990 - 1992 - 1993 six-coin sets available. The elongated singles are selling well and I still have a small supply of the above years.

If you know that you want to complete your sets, it would be a good idea to send your order in to me as soon as possible. Make your checks payable to TEC.

A short reminder about membership. We've added 15 new members to the rolls since January. We still have room for more. If you have a friend interested in collecting be sure to ask them to join TEC. An application form is enclosed with this issue. I am sure they will be glad they joined.

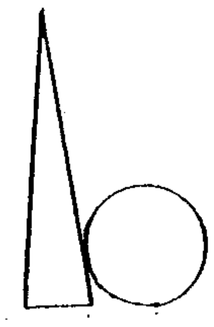
More later, Howard.

TEC SPECIAL SALE
PAST ANNUAL CONVENTION ISSUES

Type	Convention	Quan.	Price(Ea.)
Badges	1990 Seattle w/Green ribbon	5	$7.00
	1991 Chicago w/Orange ribbon	5	7.00
	1992 Orlando w/R, W & B ribbon	20	7.00
	1993 Baltimore w/R,W & B ribbon	10	7.00
Coin Sets 1¢-50¢	1989 Pittsburgh	5	7.00
	1990 Seattle (ANA)	5	7.00
	1990 Seattle (TEC)	5	7.00
	1991 Chicago (TEC & ANA)	5	7.00
	1991 Chicago (ANA Only)	7	7.00
	1992 Orlando (ANA & TEC)	5	7.00
	1993 Baltimore (ANA)	12	7.00
	1993 Baltimore (TEC)	6	7.00
Elongated Cents	1989 Pittsburgh	40	50¢ + SASE
	1990 Seattle	50	50¢ + SASE
	1991 Chicago	125	.50¢ + SASE
	1992 Orlando	75	50¢ + SASE
	1993 Baltimore (ANA w/ship)	50	.50¢ + SASE
	1993 Baltimore (TEC)	50	50¢ + SASE

Make Checks Payable to TEC

Rush Your Order To:
Howard Sharkey, TEC Secretary
203 S. Gladiolus, Momence, IL 60954-1709



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Dues for one calendar year membership in **The Elongated Collectors** club are $10.00 General; $5.00 for a second membership and $5.00 for Youth (under 18 years). Foreign Membership (Except U.S. Possessions) $12.50 per year. Benefits of TEC Membership include:

★ You receive 4 issues of the *TEC News*. Each issue ranges from 14 to 20 pages featuring informative articles, notices of new issues and more! Plus each issue contains a free elongated coin donated by a member or club.
★ You get to place a free classified ad in each issue of the *TEC News*.
★ You will receive an annual Membership Coin and a life long TEC membership number.
★ If you write an article for the *TEC News*, you'll be awarded a special *TEC News* Award Coin for each article you write. In 1993 only 33 of these collectors items were awarded.
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When completed, please forward this application to the Secretary with your check or money order made out to "TEC." Dues are $10.00 ($12.50 Foreign) for General Membership, $5.00 for second membership at the same address and $5.00 for youth (under 18 years) membership. Dues are due January 1st for calendar year.

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I agree that upon admittance to membership, I will abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of TEC and its Code of Ethics. ☐ **Check this box if you do not want your address published in *TEC News*.**

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